

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 13-19 are pending, and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Dwyer (US 5,869,194). The Examiner alleges that the AAPA discloses a method of assembling a scrubber which includes a motor, a shaft rotatably coupled to and extending through the motor, a shaft pin detachably connected to the shaft, and a disk coupled to the shaft and having a notch located relative to the shaft pin at a predetermined angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of the shaft when properly assembled. The Examiner further alleges that Dwyer supplies the missing teaching of providing a tool body and placing the tool body adjacent the scrubber. More specifically, the Examiner asserts that Dwyer discloses a tool body (91), a protrusion (122), a first recess to receive the shaft pin (110).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 13 is patentable over the cited art because, for instance, it does not teach or suggest providing a tool body configured to partially receive the scrubber, the tool body including a first recess and a protrusion; and placing the tool body adjacent the scrubber, the first recess and the protrusion being fixed in position with respect to each other when placing the tool body adjacent the scrubber to at least partially receive the shaft pin into the first recess of the tool body and to at least partially insert the protrusion of the tool body into the notch of the disk, as recited in claim 13.

"According to the auxiliary tool of this invention, when the motor 7 must be replaced, the operator simply places the motor 7 partially inside the auxiliary tool 20. The shaft pin 6 is received into the first recess 23, and the protrusion 22 is received into the notch 9 and abuts the disk 8. After both the distance and the angle between the shaft pin 6 and the notch 9 of the disk 8 are correct, the disk 8 can be fixed onto the shaft 5. Thus, replacement time is highly reduced, and efficiency is increased." Paragraph [25]. As illustrated in Figs. 3a-3c, the first recess and the protrusion are fixed in position with respect to each other during the replacement process and are arranged at the predetermined angle to quickly and easily position the notch of

the disk and the shaft pin of the scrubber for proper assembly at the predetermined angle, so that "the replacement time is highly reduced, and efficiency is increased."

In contrast, Dwyer requires that the rectangular projection (122) of the fixture (91) be mated with the notch (86) of a blank (80) (col. 5, lines 31-32), and then an adjustment knob 104 be actuated "so that the tip 112 of the conical pin moves along the insertion axis toward end wall 96" whereby the "clamping mechanism is fully engaged with the blank when the tip 112 of the conical pin has fully engaged the first locator 82, the corner 88 of the third locator 86 mates with the edge 120 of the wedge 114, and the second locator 84 mates with the projection 122." See column 5, lines 42-49. The second locator 84 and the projection 122 are not fixed in position with respect to each other. With such an arrangement, replacement time is not highly reduced, and efficiency is not increased.


For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 13 and claims 14-19 are patentable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300

RL:rl
60622068 v1